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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/617,850	07/14/2003	Amar Lulla	TPP 31402A	7989
24257	7590	12/28/2005	EXAMINER	
STEVENS DAVIS MILLER & MOSHER, LLP			PATEL, NIHIL B	
1615 L STREET, NW				
SUITE 850			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20036			3743	

DATE MAILED: 12/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PNTB

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/617,850	ULLA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Nihir Patel	3743	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10.11.2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1 and 5-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Arguments*

Applicant's arguments filed on October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The applicant argues that even though Armer teaches that a polyamide may be used, the office action fails to identify any motivation to one of ordinary skill in the art to select polyamide from among the laundry list provided in the cited passage. The examiner disagrees. As stated in the previous office action, it is obvious to one in the ordinary skill of the art to chose polyamide form the list provided as taught by Armer in order to provide better delivery of small particles. The applicant has provided data in the remarks section that states the criticality of the two frustoconical members however, the data contradicts the applicant's statement on page 3 of the specification wherein the applicant states that "**...the spacer devices can be of various shapes and construction...**".

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., "**two members forming a chamber**") are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). The applicant also argues that nowhere in Hallworth et al. is this peg and slot combination described as being a locking means. The examiner disagrees. Claim 1 of Hallworth describes as being a locking means.

Therefore the previously presented claims 1, 5, 8, 9, 10, 12 and 14 and original claims 6 and 10 are rejected as stated in the previous office action dating June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2005.

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schmidt (US Pub. 2002/0026935) as applied to claims 1, 5, 6 and 8 through 13 above, and further in view of Hallworth et al. (US 4,206,758).

**Referring to claim 7,** Schmidt discloses the applicant's invention as claimed with the exception of providing a locking means that are provided to lock the two members together in assembled condition. Hallworth discloses a device for dispensing medicaments that does provide a locking means that are provided to lock the two members together in assembled condition. Therefore it would have been obvious to modify Schmidt's invention by providing a locking means that are provided to lock the two members together in assembled condition as taught by Hallworth in order to prevent the two chambers from separating during operation.

*Conclusion*

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

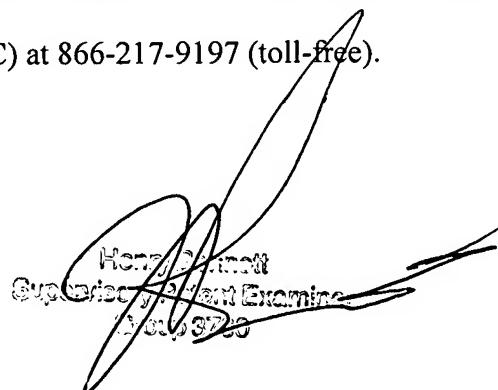
Art Unit: 3743

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nihir Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-4803. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 to 4:30 every other Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Henry Bennett can be reached on (571) 272-4791. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Nihir Patel  
December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2005



Henry Bennett  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
ACOG 3743